



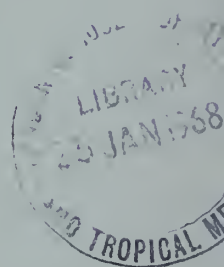
The Medical Officer of Health's

ANNUAL REPORT

for

Eastry Rural District

1962



THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S

ANNUAL REPORT

for

EASTRY RURAL DISTRICT

IN OFFICE

Chairman of the Council	{ Councillor W. P. Farrington, J.P. (Ceased May, 1962) Councillor C. F. Carnell, J.P. (Commenced May, 1962)
Chairman of the Public Health Committee ...	Councillor Mrs. M. T. Barr
Clerk of the Council	W. Wilmott, Esq.
Senior Public Health Inspector	W. H. Sayers, Esq., C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Surveyor	R. J. Meacher, Esq., A.I.A.A., M.R.S.I.

To the Chairman and Members of Eastry
Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Annual Report on the year 1962 is presented. It includes the report of Mr. Sayers, Senior Public Health Inspector, which you received at an earlier meeting in the year.

1. Population.

The population of the District which at the 1961 Census was found to be 22,328 (11,150 males; 11,178 females) was assessed by the Registrar General to be 22,540 in Mid 1962.

Birthrate.

The birth rate of 16.9 per 1,000 persons is a reasonably satisfactory one, and by the application of the population correction factor is corrected to 19.9 which is better than the England & Wales rate of 18. The illegitimate percentage of 6% shows no change on previous years.

2. The death rate of 14.5 per 1,000 persons is a normal level and corrects to 11.9 which is the rate for England & Wales, by the application of the Registrar's population factor. The causes of death are compared in the tabulation with figures for 10 years before. There is no dramatic increase except for the diseases of old age. The lung and bronchus cancer figures tempt a comparison, but looking at the figures mid-way in 1956 and 1957, one finds totals in these years of 13 and 15 respectively. We have the benefit in these parts of regular mass radiography surveys in the mines and other industries and in the villages. This may be the influence that has kept our annual incidence of lung cancer deaths from rising as it has done in other areas in the country.

3. The 1961 Census by comparison with the figures for 1951 shows the rise and fall of parish populations as follows:-

Increase in Population of over 30%:-

Aylesham	4142 (+359)	Eastry	2059 (+253)	Eythorne	1805 (+80)
Nonington	614 (+ 34)	Ripple	265 (+ 18)	St.Nicholas	640 (+22)
Sholden	511 (+ 20)	Sutton	756 (+ 33)	Wingham	1428 (+145)
Worth	718 (+ 21)				

No significant difference:-

Acol	200 (-4)	Ash	2341 (+41)	Preston	589 (-4)
Stourmouth	255 (-4)	Woodnesborough	948 (+15)		

Decrease of over 3%:-

Goodnestone	414 (-46)	Minster	2703 (-1218)
Monkton	404 (-32)	Northbourne	786 (- 126)
Sarre	89 (-33)	Staple	382 (- 31)
Tilmanstone	279 (-37)		

4. The total population of the 22 parishes fell by 494 to 22,328, an overall drop of just over 2%, but it will be noticed that this drop could be more than accounted for by the changes in the parish of Minster. In fact if Minster is excluded, the rest of the district has increased its population by 724 or over 4% in the ten years.

5. One of the difficulties in assessing the problems now present from old age, is to know the people who need help. Numerically the elderly over 65 represent 12.4% of the male population and 16% of the female population. The figures just published show the following distribution between married and the singletons, i.e. single, widowed or divorced (S/W/D) as at 1961 Census.

Population Group	65 - 74		75 & Over		Total.
	Married	S/W/D.	Married	S/W/D.	
Male	706	205	234	241	1386
Female	572	525	148	546	1791
Total	1278	730	382	787	

6. The estimate of future increase in this population group over the next ten years is over 10%. They are economically the weakest section of the community and published surveys have indicated that 10% of the 75+ group are housebound. The elderly unsupported, i.e. the single, widowed or divorced, tend to throw up the greatest problems in housing and care. The figures are given because they may help the Council in

its consideration of the special housing needs of the elderly in future planning. Unfortunately, it is not possible to break them down further into parts of the district.

7. Section 47, National Assistance Act.

During the year four cases were called to my attention which are illustrative of a point made above.

(a) An old man aged 79, the adjective is relevant as ageing is not relative to chronological age, lived in a wooden bungalow alone. He seldom left it and was dependent on a good neighbour for his main meals. He was happy, and although the premises were unkempt one could not yet term them a nuisance to others. His legs were troublesome due to varicose veins and some heart failure. He was unwilling to be moved and confident in his neighbours. Enforced removal was not justified as he was willing to be helped and the District Officer was approached to provide home help service and the attentions of the district nurse. Contact was maintained with his family doctor. This case depended on neighbourly interest above all else.

(b) A determined old man of 79 lived alone in a semi-detached cottage in a farm curtilage. He would have nothing to do with his neighbours and resisted outside help. He was suffering from severe anaemia and some other troubles. It was clear that he needed treatment and care. After a period of encouragement, appeal and coercion, it was decided on the advice of his family doctor as to his clinical condition, to seek an order for removal. The Magistrate and Magistrate's Clerk visited him and had no hesitation in granting an order under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act which permits the urgency procedure. Seen a few days later in the Chronic Sick Unit to which he was admitted, he had no recollection whatsoever of the events preceding his admission. Nine months later he was fit for discharge and was encouraged to go to an Old Persons' Home, which he refused to do. He was seen shortly after his return home and was again refusing home help. Nevertheless, a painful carbuncle made him seek out-patient treatment (he now appreciated hospital) and led him to accept re-admission to another unit, which has a residential annexe and in which he has remained. Although no relatives could be found prior to the original action, one turned up to ask the Police for the house key within 24 hours of his admission under order. Protection of the property is taken over by the County Officers in such cases.

(c) An elderly, determined widow of 84, blind and cantankerous, was a third case in which we were involved. On visit her house

was tidy, but the risks of accidents from fire, etc., from her habits were apparent. She had received home help but the service could not be maintained because of her treatment of the helpers. She was encouraged to consider admission to a suitable Old Persons' Home as the only solution.

(d) An elderly diabetic widow with slight heart failure living alone in an isolated but ample dwelling, was brought to my notice as needing removal to a home. She was mobile, capable of being helped but somewhat independent. Several visits were made by my deputy and myself, and relatives were encouraged to take a greater part in management. Removal was not considered necessary or enforceable.

8. These four cases are all in the group of over 75's in the single/widowed/divorced category and provide confirmation that it is in this group that special services of care, neighbourly interest, and special housing in wardened units is needed.

9. Special Housing Cases.

General advice was given on a number of housing cases, including families with young children in sub-standard accommodation, and cases of chest disease. In the latter, the advice is given after discussion with the Chest Physician or family doctor.

10. False Damp.

Condensation in Council Houses again gave rise to complaints but in such cases it is the mode of usage and not the structure at fault. Paraffin heating has water vapour as an end product of combustion, as has gas, and ventilation is essential if the moisture is not to be condensed on the cold or cooling walls. Householders who are away from home at work all day suffer most. The opportunity to open up the house for the day air to dry it is not there. Instead the house holds all the built up moisture from overnight and throws it out on the cold walls, and in the evening the occupants come home to a house that feels and smells damp.

11. General Matters. Waste Disposal.

The management of slaughterhouse waste composting and disposal on farm land, again received attention. While spreading and ploughing in gave rise to trouble of short duration, the general management of this agricultural procedure was greatly improved.

12. Noise.

The noise nuisance from bird scarers was again troublesome during the cherry season. The Electronic bird scarer has bettered the acetylene gun in results, although some farmers use both. The problem is to achieve the desired result with the minimum volume, duration and frequency. Fortunately, the apparatus can be adjusted to determine, how often, how loud, and how long the noise will be produced. From the hearer's - that is the public's point of view, the annoyance is in the volume, duration and frequency that is required in the early hours of the day and in the evening, and also at other feeding times for certain species of bird. The farmer has to use the scarer with the knowledge of feeding times and has to keep the birds up in the air long enough for them to move away from the orchard. Humans are sensitive to danger calls, and the nuisance is selective in its effects, disturbing certain households only. The threshold of disturbance is lower in female than male, except in the night worker who sleeps by day. Two sources of this trouble exist in the district and attempts were made to reach an acceptable compromise between use and annoyance, with the co-operation of the farmers but with limited success.

13. A complaint about a children's playground was also investigated. The lay-out of recreation grounds needs to take into consideration the noise arising round swings and see-saws, where excitement raises the pitch, and this alone should prevent nuisance arising. Subsequent lay-out of houses should try to avoid trouble.

14. War Graves.

The war graves of German casualties in this country are being concentrated in a special cemetery in Surrey and as a result we were involved in the oversight of disinterments by a special team of workers provided by the German War Graves Commission. The work was done with care and decency, behind screens and leaving the disturbed ground limed. The remains were inspected to check identity and were removed in closed plastic coffers for burial in Surrey.

15. Infectious Diseases.

As will be seen from the tables, the incidence of notifiable infectious disease was relatively low. Dysentery, usually of the type Sonne occurred in the mid-summer but was limited.

16. While the number of notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis was up on 1961, the 10 year comparison with 1952 shows how much better the situation is today.

17. Whooping Cough shows a remarkable decline over the ten year interval, undoubtedly due to the inoculation of infants in association with diphtheria prophylaxis.
18. Poliomyelitis shows a similar change and it is good to be able to record an absence of cases during the year.
19. An unusual co-incidence of cases occurred in one village where two cases of relatively rare diseases, one of acute polyneuritis and one of non specific meningitis occurred within four weeks of each other and within 200 yards of each other. Both were admitted to hospital in the early stage of illness due to the keen observation of the family doctor as to their nature. Investigation of a possible common link or secondary association drew a blank.
20. We are troubled in the district with epidemic nausea sometimes called winter vomiting disease which attacks communities such as schools, quite suddenly with an apparent 24 to 48 hour incubation period. A Working Party under the Medical Research Council Public Health Laboratory Service, is doing research on the condition. While it is of short duration and clears in 12 - 24 hours, with the result that the doctor is seldom called in, the illness can upset a residential establishment or factory. A check survey of schools in the autumn 1962, showed it to be present, but also which is of some interest to be absent where it had been previously repeatedly present. It would seem to be some chylous virus which is responsible for its spread.
21. International Disease Control.
- Manston Civil Airfield ceased to be active for most of 1962, but before it became dormant we were involved in the prevention of the importation of smallpox from an infected area of Germany. During the week-end 6/7th January, all passengers from Germany were required to provide details of ultimate destination and were interviewed or inspected for evidence of recent vaccination. 311 passengers were checked and vaccination was carried out on 10 of them. Vaccination was offered to all airport personnel and was generally accepted. You will recall that several smallpox cases arose in this country from the arrival of persons incubating the disease who had travelled by air from Pakistan.
22. One cannot repeat too often the need for mothers to have their babies vaccinated at the best possible age, which is at age one year. All subsequent smallpox vaccination procedure made necessary by our constant risk of such outbreaks or by international travel are modified by this primary vaccination, to the comfort of the individual. At age one year, primary smallpox vaccination is a mild procedure. In addition to

resultant protection against smallpox which will decline in degree over the years, the lasting benefit is that all subsequent smallpox protection is a revaccination, i.e. a booster and just a simple routine. We here are on the doorstep of Europe and beyond and should be properly protected.

May I express my appreciation of the help and good service of Mr. Sayers and his staff, and of the good relations between the Council's Chief Officers. I thank you also for the good hearing given to my advice and for your interest in public health affairs.

MALCOLM S. HARVEY
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS.

Population Mid 1962 - 22,540 persons.

Area of District - 54,276 acres.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births: 380 (Male: 195) (Female: 185)

Live Birth rate per 1,000 population = 16.9 (England & Wales 18.)
Correction factor 1.18 = 19.9 per 1,000 corrected birth rate.

Stillbirths: 8 (Male: 4) (Female: 4)
(7 legitimate)

Stillbirths per 1,000 live and = 20 (England & Wales 18.1)
stillbirths:

Total live and stillbirths: 388

Infant Deaths: 7 (Male: 4) (Female: 3)
(two illegitimate)

Infant Mortality rate per = 18 (England & Wales 21.4)
1,000 live births (total):

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births:

Legitimate: = 5 in 357

Illegitimate: = 2 in 23

Neonatal Mortality: 5 = 13 per 1,000 live births.
(first 4 weeks, actually all under 1 week)

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births: 6%
(23 out of 380)

Maternal Deaths: Nil.

Deaths all ages: 328 (Male: 181) (Female: 147)

Death rate = 14.5 per 1,000 persons. (England & Wales 11.9
(Correction factor 0.82 gives 11.9 per 1,000 population)

Perinatal Mortality Rate: 33.
(Deaths under 1 week and stillbirths per 1,000 live and stillbirths)

Causes of Death

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	3	1	2
" (Other)	-	-	1
All other Infectious or Parasitic Diseases.	4	2	1
Malignant Neoplasms. Stomach.	6	5	5
" " Lungs & Bronchus.	3	3	12
" " Breast.	5	7	7
" " Uterus.	2	4	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	23	23	26
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia.	1	3	1
	(40)	(45)	(53)
Diabetes.	1	3	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	27	37	35
Coronary Disease. Angina.	21	41	52
Hypertension with Heart Disease.	1	7	13
Other Heart Diseases.	49	64	71
Other Circulatory Diseases.	9	16	14
	(108)	(168)	(185)
Influenza.	-	-	2
Pneumonia.	14	21	18
Bronchitis.	11	19	13
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	2	3	2
	(27)	(43)	(35)
Ulcers of Stomach and Duodenum.	2	1	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	3	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	2	4
Hyperplasia of Prostrate.	-	1	1
Pregnancy. Childbirth. Abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital Malformation.	1	1	5
Other defined and Ill defined Diseases.	17	34	32
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	2	4	2
All other accidents.	2	7	3
Suicide.	2	1	3
Homicide.	-	-	-
Male:	114	139	181
Female:	95	174	147
Total:	<u>209</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>328</u>
Death Rate:	8.57	14	14.5

Infant Deaths

Cause of Death	Under 1 day.		Under 1 week.		Age shown.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Prematurity (Asphyxia)	-	-	1	-	-	-
" (Toxaemia)	-	1	-	-	-	-
" (Uncomplicated)	1	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital defects with Complications.	-	-	1	-	4/12	-
Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn.	-	-	-	1	-	-
Cot death (food inhalation)	-	-	-	-	-	8/12
Total:	1	1	2	1	1	1

Total: 7.

Infectious Diseases.

The following tabulations shows the incidence and age distribution of cases during 1962:-

	Quarters of Year				By Age Groups.					Totals:		
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	0-4	5-9	10-14	15+	65 +	1962	1961	1952
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	3	3	17
Measles.	29	1	5	-	19	15	-	1	-	35	252	142
Whooping Cough.	1	-	-	4	3	2	-	-	-	5	3	93
Pneumonia.	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	3	4	7	11
Dysentery.	-	-	8	-	-	1	-	7	-	8	-	-
Meningococcal Infection.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	4
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	3	2	3	6	-	-	-	13	1	14	12	26
Tuberculosis (Other)	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	3	5	2

Tuberculosis Detail.

Age distribution of notifications of tuberculosis, Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary.

	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>N-P.</u>	<u>Female:</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>N.P.</u>	
Under 15		-	-		-	2	
15 - 25		2	-		-	-	
25 - 45		-	-		2	-	
Over 45		10	-		-	1	
Respiratory:		12			2		Total: 14
Other Forms:			-			3	" 3
							Total: 17.

Number on T.B. Register at 31/12/62.

Respiratory:	Male:	126	Female:	85
Other Forms:	"	32	"	40

Figures for 1952.

Respiratory:	Male:	103	"	85
Other Forms:	"	24	"	30

Immunization and Vaccination.

		<u>Total Persons</u>			<u>Including Persons</u>
		<u>0-4</u>	<u>5-15</u>	<u>Over 15</u>	<u>born in 1961 or</u>
					<u>1962</u>
Diphtheria:	Primary	301	9	-	276
	Immunization:				
	Reinforcing:	94	112	-	-
Smallpox:	Primary	318	250	419	243
	Vaccination:				
	Revaccination:	47	223	499	6
Whooping	Inoculations:	295	4	-	274
Cough:					

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

	<u>2 doses.</u>	<u>3 doses.</u>	<u>4th dose.</u>
Children under 5.	63	460	-
All Others.	61	702	-
Children under 12.	-	-	358

PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	2	-	-
i) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	58	36	5	-
ii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	62	38	5	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H. M. Inspctr. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (s.1)	7	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (s.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (s.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation. (s.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.(s.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (a)(Insufficient)(s.7)	2	2	-	-	-
(b)(Unsuitable or defective)	2	2	-	-	-
(c)(Not separate for sexes)	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:	11	7	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work.	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
ring) Making arel) etc., Cleaning and Washing.	1	-	-	-	-	-
making of boxes other recep- les or parts reof made wholly partially of er.	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	2	-	-	-	-	-

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EASTRY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1962.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Easry Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report upon various aspects of environmental hygiene with which your Public Health Inspectors have been associated during the year 1962.

It has again been a year of progress in various directions, but unfortunately at the expense of essential routine work and certain statutory functions which cannot be fulfilled, and I suggest that the time has now arrived when the Council must seriously consider increasing the staff of the Department.

HOUSING.

During the year a further eighteen houses were reported as being unfit for human habitation and incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense. Sixteen Demolition Orders and one Closing Order were made. At the end of 1961 twenty-six families were still living in condemned houses but by the end of 1962, the figure had risen to thirty-three. We have a statutory duty to inspect the district to discover houses unfit for human habitation and there is little doubt that were time and staff available, many more such reports might be made resulting in even more Demolition Orders - all to little purpose unless the unfortunate tenants can be re-housed.

In an effort to step up the rate of improvements to existing houses, local authorities have been urged in a Ministry Circular to go out into their districts and "sell" Improvement Grants. As far as this Council is concerned, grants have been approved, without resort

to publicity, at an average rate of seventy a year over the past nine years, a figure which is accepted as being satisfactory and which at present appears likely to continue. This has been achieved by treating grants as an integral part of housing administration and maintaining a continuous programme of improvement and repair which together with advances in drainage and sanitation, dates from the completion of the Rural Housing Survey in 1950. Your Public Health Inspectors are in constant contact with owners, agents and builders on all housing matters and are supported in the knowledge that the Council's policy is to encourage Improvement Grants wherever they can properly be made.

DRAINAGE.

As the scars of main drainage fade from the roads of Woodnesborough, Sholden, Ash and Worth, the residents can look forward in 1963 to the passing of their cesspools and pail closets. The extension of main drainage throughout the district is of course very welcome but I think that the Council should be reminded of the increased work it places upon the Department, which commences before any pipes are laid and continues long after new sewers are in operation.

The post war years have seen many developments in drainage of buildings, both as regards underground drains and soil and waste installations. Pitch fibre pipes are now in common use, single stack plumbing is increasingly used and there is little doubt that before long the hopper head will disappear and internal wastes will become standard practice. New methods and materials are to be welcomed when tried and tested, provided they are genuine improvements, but where single stack and internal plumbing is involved, a high standard of workmanship is essential and additional testing becomes necessary. Modifications are constantly taking place and in all this we are largely dependent upon the advice and guidance of the Building Research Station.

CARAVANS.

Moveable dwellings, to which the term caravan is commonly applied, continue to be manufactured in large numbers and whether we like them or not, they are here to

stay. This is a subject on which it is most unwise to generalise but at least it can be said that in whatever forms caravans appear, they present constant and continuing problems for local authorities and although it is not the duty of a local authority to harass caravans that are within the law, it is our duty to see that the law is observed. The problem affects this area in varying forms which may be conveniently considered under the following headings:-

(1) Travellers, i.e. Gipsies, Didicois, etc.

It was suggested in my Report for 1959 that winter quarters should be provided on a county rather than a district basis and it is pleasing to note that this is now being done. I would again stress, however, that it is wrong to imagine that the majority of travellers aspire to a Council house. At the end of this year there were in the district nine families in three small groups, all seeking winter quarters.

During the year the Council granted a licence for land in Wingham to be occupied by six residential caravans to house a family group long associated with the district, and the security of a licence will now enable them to continue a respected way of life they have followed for several generations.

(2) Holiday Caravan Sites.

Nine sites in the district are licensed to accommodate a total of 515 holiday caravans and although minor difficulties associated with licence requirements have arisen, there has generally been a steady improvement in the condition of sites since the Caravans Act of 1960.

(3) Residential Caravan Sites.

There has been an increase in the number of residential caravans and there are now two sites licensed for 28 and 40 caravans respectively. The occupants are, in the main, elderly and retired people and it is to be expected that sooner or later many of these will be applicants for Council housing.

Except for those whose occupations take them to different parts of the country, residential caravans may not continue to be so popular when there is an adequate supply of houses available.

(4) Individual Residential Caravans.

The increasing number of individual residential caravans is a matter for some concern since although four only are licensed by the Council, there are others which claim to come within the exemption provisions of the Caravans Act. When the use of a caravan is incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house, it is exempt from licence control but there is a real danger that abuse of this exemption may lead to a spread in the number of caravans let to strangers on a purely commercial basis, and quite contrary to the spirit of the Act.

The other exemption requiring attention is that enjoyed by members of certain exempted organisations. Responsible organisations accept this exemption as a means of giving their members freedom on tour, and not as a means of establishing sites which should be subject to normal terms and licences.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Changing patterns in the sale and distribution of food over recent years affect the villages as much as the towns. In this district, ten village bakehouses have closed, although the few remaining are still much sought after by discriminating customers in search of a real crusty loaf. Nine village dairies no longer operate and most milk is now supplied by large distributors from outside the district.

Pre-packaging of frozen foods and the introduction of frozen food cabinets to village general stores have not removed the necessity for vigilance by the Health Inspector or care by the shopkeeper. A system of stock rotation is particularly necessary where packaged goods are concerned but all too often is not practiced, and date coding of packages is, unfortunately, intelligible only to the manufacturer. Although frozen foods may be prepared under hygienic factory conditions, their ultimate fitness for sale to the consumer depends upon intelligent handling and stock rotation by the shopkeeper, and a proper maintenance of the cabinet.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956.

This Act is intended to provide for the safety, health and welfare of persons engaged in agriculture and give to those employed on the land the protection enjoyed by factory workers for over half a century. The duty of the local authority under this Act is to enforce the sections relating to the provision, maintenance and cleanliness of sanitary conveniences on agricultural holdings, a term which includes farms, market gardens and horticulture.

While it is only fair to record that certain enlightened employers have provided amenities for their employees, in an area of this size and character, there is a clear need for the local authority to fulfil its obligations under the Act and I would once again remind the Council that with existing staff, this cannot be done.

I should once again like to express my appreciation of the support and encouragement received from the Chairman and Members of the Council during the year and the continued help and co-operation from all members of the staff.

Your obedient servant,

W. H. SAYERS

Senior Public Health Inspector.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' DEPARTMENT

Senior Public Health Inspector.

W. H. SAYERS.

Cert. S.I.B.
Cert. Meat & Food Inspection.
Cert Smoke Inspector.

^{Deputy}
Additional Public Health Inspector.

A. H. LAWRENCE.

Cert. S.I.B.
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SECTION A.HOUSING(1) Formal Action taken under the Housing Act, 1957.

No. of houses reported under Section 16	18
No. of Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	16
No. of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	1
No. of houses demolished	...	...	...	6
No. of Demolition Orders revoked	...	...	...	4
No. of formal Undertakings cancelled	...	...	...	1

(2) No. of houses made fit as the result of Informal action.. 47

(3) Improvement Grants.(a) Discretionary Grants.

Total No. of houses in respect of which Grants have been approved since July, 1954	...	...	...	575
Total expenditure involved	...	...	...	£405,597
Total of Grants approved	...	...	...	£152,491

Grants approved during the year 1962:-

- | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (1) No. of dwellings in respect of which Grants were approved | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |
| Owner/occupied | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Agricultural dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |
| (2) Total cost of schemes approved | £39,469 | | | | | |
| | (Average £917 per dwelling) | | | | | |
| (3) Amount ascribed to improvements: | £32,807 | | | | | |
| (4) Amount ascribed to repairs: | £6,662 | | | | | |
| | (Average £154 per dwelling) | | | | | |
| (5) Total of Grants approved: | £14,130 | | | | | |
| | (Average £328 per dwelling) | | | | | |
| (6) The maximum grant of £400 was approved in 18 cases. | | | | | | |

(b) Standard Grants.

(1)	No. of applications for Standard Grants approved	21
(2)	Standard amenities to be provided:	
	Baths	13
	Wash-hand basins	17
	Hot water supplies	17
	Water closets	8
	Food storage	12

(4) Rent Act, 1957.

Certificates of Disrepair.

(1)	No. of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	NIL
(2)	No. of Certificates (issued in previous years) cancelled	NIL

(5) Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	4
	(ii)	No. of families dwelling therein ...	6
	(iii)	No. of persons dwelling therein ...	42
(b)		No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c)	(i)	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
	(ii)	No. of persons concerned in such cases	8

SECTION B.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

(1) Water Supply.

There are 7,409 dwelling houses in the district, of which 22 are without a piped supply and 35 draw a main supply from standpipes.

Routine sampling for bacteriological examination has been carried out with the following results:-

- (a) Mains supplies: 16 samples taken. All satisfactory.
(b) Private wells: 29 samples taken. 9 sources - unfit.

(2) Drainage.

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year:-

No. of visits in connection with drainage work	...	1174			
Testing of drains:	No. of water tests applied ..	292			
	No. of mirror " " ...	246			
	No. of air " " ...	13			
	No. of smoke " " ...	3			
New buildings - drainage supervised and tested	...	88			
Existing buildings provided with drainage systems		32			
Existing buildings - drainage altered or repaired		72			
Buildings connected to sewers - New Houses	...	64			
	- Existing	...	24		
Cesspools constructed	49
Septic tanks constructed	19
Cesspools abolished	36
Pail closets converted to water closets			47

(3) Pail Closets.

The following table shows the approximate number of Pail Closets existing in the various parishes:-

Parish.	No. of Dwelling Houses.	Approximate No. of Dwelling Houses with Pail Closets.
ACCL.	70	1
ASH	836	89
AYLESHAM	1128	-
EASTRY	608	14
EYTHORNE	596	18
GOODNESTONE	139	47
MINSTER	829	9
MONKTON	144	14
NONINGTON	225	50
NORTHBOURNE	273	36
PRESTON	213	43
RIPPLE	125	22
SARRE	43	10
SHOLDEN	201	52
STAPLE	142	62
STOURLMOUTH	89	17
ST. NICHOLAS	249	19
SUTTON	247	29
TILMANSTONE	104	26
WINGHAM	523	53
WOODNESBOROUGH	343	109
WORTH	282	23
TOTAL	7409	743

(4) Rodent Control.

	Local Authority Property	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agri- cultural Property	TOTAL
of properties visited.	9	67	78	490	644
Found to be infested.	9	50	53	203	315
of properties treated.	9	26	32	90	157
of visits in connection in treatments.	69	104	128	460	761

SECTION C.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(1) Milk Supply.

There are thirty-four milk distributors registered in the district and all milk sold by retail for human consumption is specially designated, i.e. Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested.

(2) Ice-Cream.

There are eighty-nine premises in the district registered for the sale of ice-cream and in all of these the ice-cream is pre-wrapped.

Results of Sampling:

<u>Number taken:</u>	<u>Grade I.</u>	<u>Grade II.</u>	<u>Grade III.</u>	<u>Grade IV.</u>
14	8	6	-	-

(3) Inspection of Meat & Food.Carcases and offal inspected at Slaughterhouses and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horse.
Number killed (if known)	-	-	-	242	365	-
Number inspected.	-	-	-	242	365	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	-	-	-	3	35	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	-	-	-	1.02%	9.59%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	-	-	-	-	14	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	3.84%	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of carcasses, parts of carcasses and
offal rejected for all diseases

	Cwts.	Qtrs.	lbs.
Carcases	-	-	-
Parts of Carcasses ...	1	2	25
Offal	1	-	$\frac{1}{2}$
TOTAL	2	2	$25\frac{1}{2}$

In addition to meat surrendered at slaughterhouses, the following food was inspected at the request of traders and surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:-

Canned Food.

Meat	49 tins.
Fruit	2 "
Tomatoes	1 tin.

Other Foods.

Meat	315 lbs.
Split Peas, Yellow	14 "
Split Peas, Green	7 "
Salami	255 "

INSPECTIONS

A total of 3,412 visits were made by Public Health Inspectors during the year and the following table gives an indication of the proportion of time devoted to various duties:-

In connection with the Housing Acts ...	...	...	...	...	...	872
In connection with Rents Acts ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
In connection with Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	377
Water Supply...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Drainage ...	...	...	...	...	...	1174
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	84
Butcher's Shops	...	...	...	...	...	54
Other Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	251
Restaurants ...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Ice-cream premises ..	...	...	...	...	...	15
Poulterers ...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Street Traders	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories ...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Hop Pickers' Camps ..	...	...	...	...	...	8
Infectious Disease ..	...	...	...	...	...	22
Shops Acts ...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	136
Knackers' Yard	...	...	...	...	...	14
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	58

COMPLAINTS

Ninety-four complaints were made to the Department during the year on the following subjects:-

Housing Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fly & Wasp Infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Unsound Food ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
